

(12) PATENT APPLICATION  
(19) AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE

(11) Application No. AU 199952660 A1

(54) Title  
A structural member

(51)<sup>7</sup> International Patent Classification(s)  
E04C 003/08 E04C 002/34  
E04B 002/60 E04C 003/32  
E04B 002/78

(21) Application No: 199952660

(22) Application Date: 1999.10.01

(30) Priority Data

(31) Number (32) Date (33) Country  
PP6405 1998.10.07 AU

(43) Publication Date : 2000.04.13

(43) Publication Journal Date : 2000.04.13

(71) Applicant(s)  
BHP Steel (JLA) Pty Ltd

(72) Inventor(s)  
Name not given

(74) Agent/Attorney  
GRIFFITH HACK,GPO Box 4164,SYDNEY NSW 2001

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ABSTRACT

5 This invention relates generally to a structural member (10) which is I-shaped in cross-section with each of opposing edge flanges (14A or 14B) extending laterally both sides of a web (12). The elongate web (12) is constructed of expanded metal in which a series of parallel and longitudinally extending slits (16) are formed. The web (12) is expanded transversely so that the slits (16) form  
10 openings (18) in the expanded web (12). The structural member (10) of one particular embodiment is designed as a stud member being cold roll formed from a relatively light gauge steel material typically having a wall thickness of about 0.4 mm. The opposing edge flanges (14A or 14B) each  
15 include a pair of opposing transversely spaced flange walls such as (20 and 22). An outermost (20) of the flange walls (20 and 22) is relatively broad and flat so as to present a cladding element bearing area which limits flange deflection particularly when it is nailed for fixing  
20 cladding. The relatively light gauge flange walls (20 or 22) have improved nailability and together provide enhanced nail retention.

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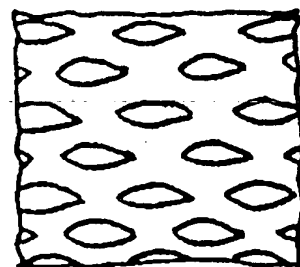
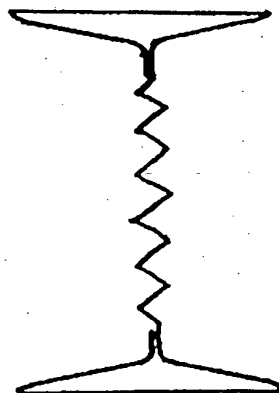
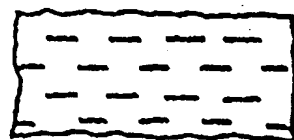
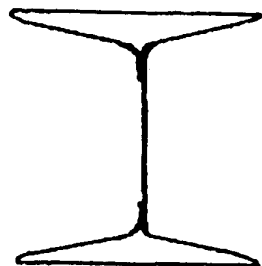


FIG. 1

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